



Shojo Beat Manga

# library wars

6

Love & War



STORY & ART BY **Kijiro Yumi**

ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY **Hiro Arikawa**

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## Contents

Chapter 24	007
Chapter 25	039
Chapter 26	071
Chapter 27	105
Chapter 28	121
Bonus material	153
Extra bonus material	183
End notes	188

## The Library Freedom Act

Libraries have the freedom to acquire their collections.

Libraries have the freedom to circulate  
materials in their collections.

Libraries guarantee the privacy of their patrons.

Libraries oppose any type of censorship.

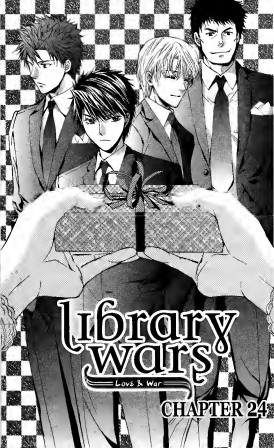
When libraries are imperiled,  
librarians will join together  
to secure their freedom.







library  
warfare



# Library Wars

Love & War

CHAPTER 24



It was generous  
of the commander  
to wait until  
the end of  
his term.

HMM.

HE'S  
BEING HELD  
RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THE  
ABDUCTION OF  
INSTRUCTOR  
KOMAKI LAST  
MONTH.

REALLY?

RUMOR HAS IT  
THAT ACTING  
DIRECTOR  
TOBA WILL BE  
REASSIGNED.

...I CAN  
ANTICIPATE THE  
REPEAL OF  
MOROKO'S  
PUNISH BY  
THE MEDIA  
RETRIBUTION  
COMMITTEE.



PK Showdown





WHO'S  
FILLING  
HIS  
SHOES?

I hope it's  
someone  
more fit  
for the  
position.

We can't  
allow another  
incident like  
that.

IT'S  
STILL  
VERY  
HUSH-  
HUSH.



Yeah.

I SAW  
HER  
TODAY!

ON  
SPEAKING OF  
INSTRUCTOR  
KOMARI,  
MARIE  
WAS AT THE  
LIBRARY  
TODAY.



THAT'S WHAT  
MARIE SAID.  
IS KOMARI'S  
BIRTHDAY THIS  
MONTH OR  
SOMETHING?

THIS IS A  
SPECIAL  
MOMENT FOR  
US...!

Is  
that  
cute  
or  
what?

She's  
totally  
opening  
up to us.

Speech is a  
struggle for  
Marie as she  
can't control  
her volume.

She's  
started  
using her  
real voice  
with us.

HUH...?

OH.

2  
2020  
SHOKA 12

SUN

DO YOU  
REALIZE  
WHAT  
MONTH  
THIS IS?

NO,  
DUMMY.

That's why  
the girls are all  
giggling about  
chocolate and  
boys.

Valentine's  
Day.  
Hmm.

I'D  
JOIN  
THE  
FUN...



YOU'RE  
THINKING  
OUT LOUD  
AGAIN.



...IF I  
COULD  
ONLY  
FIND MY  
PRINCE.



YES,  
SIR.

That's  
right.



HURRY  
INTO THE  
BUILDING.  
THE  
MEETING  
STARTS  
SOON.

INSTRUC-  
TOR  
POLICY

You sneak  
up like  
a thief!

I'm  
not a  
thief!



There's  
no one.

WHAT  
A FINE  
WAY TO  
START  
THE  
DAY!



Who  
would  
I give  
chocolate  
to  
anyway?

Darkness  
starts  
today.

You'll be out  
of your  
comfort  
zone.  
Keep on  
your toes!

Sp  
Loosh

GOT ANY  
PLANS FOR  
VALENTINE'S DAY,  
SHIBAZAKI?

Think about it.  
If a knockout  
like me plays  
favorites  
there will be  
blood in the  
streets.

GIRLS IN MY  
DEPARTMENT  
GIVE SWEETS  
TO EVERYONE  
AS A GROUP  
TO PRESERVE  
ANONYMITY.

SO,  
NO  
NO  
PLANS.

I'd make an  
exception for  
Instructor  
Doge though.  
...

Yes  
kind.





SWEET

It's up to  
me to  
give the  
brute  
courtesy  
chocolate!

14.1

COURTESY  
CHOCOLATE  
FOR  
EVERYONE  
ON THE  
TASK  
FORCE.

HELP  
YOUR-  
SELVES,  
GENTLE-  
MEN!

DA!

TA

Kasahara!  
Isn't this a little  
impersonal  
even for  
courtesy  
chocolate?

I'M THE  
ONLY GIRL  
ON THE  
FORCE.  
I CAN'T  
POSSIBLY  
COVER  
EVERYONE.



# VWOOSH

PLAIN CHOCOLATE,  
BUT CHOCOLATE  
FROM A GIRL  
NONETHELESS!

YOU  
DON'T  
WANT IT?  
**FINE.**  
MORE  
FOR ME.

RIP...

Good.

That's  
it for  
this  
year.

Oh?

Will it be  
the same  
next  
year?

Newsmind!

This is the  
simplest  
way to  
make sure  
Instructor  
Dojo  
gets some  
chocolate.

Get  
one!

Get  
one!

I'll  
take  
one  
then!

Obviously.

...

What  
happened  
there?

What  
happened  
there?





Hello,  
I'm Kikyo Yumi.  
This is the  
sixth volume of  
Library Wars.

I know I keep  
saying it,  
but I never get  
used to it.  
Oh my god!  
My sixth book is  
in bookstores!

I feel so  
grateful to be  
a part of this.  
I am thankful to  
everyone involved.

Thank you so  
much!

Hope you enjoy  
it from cover  
to cover!



There'll  
be some  
left for  
Instructor  
Dojo  
when he  
arrives.







I'M  
SORRY.

IF YOU  
DON'T  
ALREADY  
HAVE  
SOMEONE  
SPECIAL...

...WOULD  
YOU LIKE  
TO GO  
OUT  
WITH  
M-



WOULD  
YOU  
ACCEPT  
MY  
...?

SORRY.  
CAN'T.



HHH??

OH?

THAT'S  
RICH,  
COMING  
FROM  
YOU.

ANOTHER  
HEART  
BROKEN,  
BOMBOT?



THE  
CHIEF'S  
SUCH  
A BIG  
PIG!

It's all  
right.  
I'll just  
go and  
buy  
more.



OH, DEAR.  
WHAT  
DO THEY  
SEE IN THIS  
STIFF?

RIGHT  
BACK AT  
YOU.

Who  
wants to  
date a  
hardcase  
stupid!



IF YOU  
HAVEN'T  
HAD  
LUNCH  
YET...

CARE  
TO JOIN  
ME?

?!

WHAT  
?!



LET'S  
CIRCLE  
THE  
WAGONS.

I JUST  
WANT TO  
SCARE THEM  
OFF WHILE  
I BAT.

I want her  
chocolate

People

It's  
happening  
out there.  
Have you  
got a  
flash-camera?

Watch  
with me, will  
you?

Mayor

Shirley



I'm not  
giving  
up until  
Instructor  
Dojo  
gets...



OH.



SR-

HEY,  
DOJO?

SHP







...INSTRUCTOR  
DOJO HAS  
HIS OWN LITTLE  
FOLLOWING.

Today is  
Valentine's  
Day.



A day  
when  
girls give  
chocolate  
to the  
ones they  
love.





"Hey,  
Dojo."  
Hmm...

EMPTY

I didn't  
have a  
chance  
to stock  
up.

Perhaps  
they  
enlisted  
at the  
same  
time...

GLANCE

I'M  
FINISHED  
ENTERING  
DATA.

OKAY.

19:18



LOOK AT THE FILE!  
IT'S OFF BY  
A ROW FROM  
PAGE TWO  
TO THE  
END!

Yes?  
KASAHARA...

Hard copy

REDO

OVERTIME

HUH?

GIVE ME  
HALF.  
I'LL LEND  
YOU A  
HAND.

Desktop is...  
not  
for  
parts.

I'LL FIX  
IT RIGHT  
AWAY.







...after  
he got that  
beautifully  
wrapped  
chocolate?



NO.

NOTHING,  
SIR.

KOAH!

WHAT'S  
WITH  
YOU  
TODAY?







WHAT  
IS  
THIS?



ZSH ZSH ZSH

CLANG



THE MORE YOU  
WANT TO BUY  
THE MORE YOU  
WANT TO SELL

THAT'S...  
WELL...  
UHH...

IT'S  
TOO  
CHEAP.

YOU WON'T  
LIKE IT,  
SIR.

NOTHING.







THIS IS  
THE FIRST  
AND ONLY  
CHOCOLATE I  
GOT TODAY,  
YOU BLOCK-  
HEAD!

CRASH  
CRASH



NEWS-  
FLASH!



BOOF

MISS  
CHIBA-  
SAKI?

WHAT  
TIME IS  
YOUR  
LUNCH  
BREAK?

When  
the  
snow  
falls...

...are  
replaced  
by  
flower  
petals...

REALLY?  
BUT...

WHAT  
WAS  
THAT?

THAT WAS  
FOR KONAKI.  
SHE ASKED ME  
TO HAND IT TO  
HIM BECAUSE  
HE WAS SO  
HARD TO  
CATCH.

...!  
I see.



I WAS  
WONDERING  
IF WE COULD  
HAVE LUNCH  
TOGETHER.

...a fresh  
breeze  
comes  
blowing  
in.



## Secret adminer part 5







## CHAPTER 25



THAT'S RIGHT!  
I'M HIKARU  
ASAHINA.  
I'M GLAD YOU  
REMEMBERED  
MY NAME.

MR.  
ASAHINA,  
IF I'M NOT  
MISTAKEN?

YOU  
COME  
TO THE  
LIBRARY  
QUITE  
OFTEN.

This is  
like a  
proper  
date.

I WAS  
WONDERING  
IF WE COULD  
HAVE LUNCH  
TOGETHER.

It's not like  
this is the  
first time  
a guy has  
asked me  
out.

SIP

...

GO.

WITH  
KASAHARA,  
RIGHT?  
I'LL TELL  
HER YOU'RE  
BUSY.

BUT I  
HAVE AN  
APPOINT-  
MENT...

YES,  
SHE'D  
LOVE  
TO!

It looks  
like word  
has made  
its way  
to other  
departments.

But never  
the way  
he did...  
declaring his  
intentions in  
front of  
everyone!

Welcome,  
I'll be  
right with  
you

IN FACT,  
YOU'VE  
GIVEN ME  
GUIDANCE  
SEVERAL  
TIMES.

It'll just  
be the  
two of  
you?

Shun

Well  
then.



OH.

I DIDN'T  
EXPECT  
YOU TO ASK  
ME OUT,  
THOUGH.

WELL,  
HAPPY  
TO BE OF  
SERVICE.

IT'S  
REALLY  
HELPFUL.

YOUR  
MANNER  
IS SO  
KIND.



A nice  
young  
man  
indeed.

Sorry.

It seems  
he's just  
what he  
appears  
to be.  
Not bad-  
looking  
either.

But...

That  
infec-  
tious  
smile.



I HATE TO  
TROUBLE  
YOU  
WHEN  
YOU'RE  
BUSY.

I JUST  
WANTED TO  
TALK TO  
YOU.

NO,  
NO TROUBLE  
AT ALL.  
WELL,  
EXCEPT FOR  
THE GOSSIPING  
COWORKERS  
BACK AT THE  
LIBRARY.



A guy  
like him  
can still be  
trouble.

WHAT  
ARE THEY  
SAYING?



WELL,  
HE  
SEEMS  
POLITE.

And  
easy on  
the eyes!

I'M JUST A  
CONCERNED  
FRIEND.

WHAT IF  
HE TURNS  
OUT TO BE  
A WACKO?



IF YOU'RE  
SO ANXIOUS  
TO HEAR,  
WHY NOT  
SIT CLOSER  
TO THEIR  
TABLE?

What am I  
even doing  
here?

YOU  
WERE  
ALREADY  
GUILTY  
WHEN  
YOU  
DECIDED  
TO  
COME  
HERE.

IDIOT!  
THAT'LL  
MAKE US  
GUILTY OF  
SPYING.



HOWEVER...



Nahuh. There's  
a clear line  
between spying  
and accidentally  
overhearing. Buddy.

While I was working on this volume the world was going crazy for the 2010 World Cup!

Like everybody else, I was an enthusiastic fan even when I was at work. It was so exciting to watch the great matches on TV! Thanks to the teams for trying so hard!

Perhaps you can see my enthusiasm if you look at this volume's gag panels.

Sorry, I'm really amused.



Yep

...HER PERFECTLY REHEARSED SMILE...?

ALL I CAN SEE IS...

NOT REALLY.

DO YOU THINK SHE'S INTO HIM?

Gosh. We're barely sustaining a conversation.

DO YOU VISIT THE LIBRARY FOR WORK-RELATED MATERIAL?

MY BOSS STUDIES GOVERNMENT ISSUES AND I ASSIST.

Let's get this over with.

YES.

We have nothing in common.



THAT'S  
A BIT...

...  
SERIOUS.

Book  
burning.

The  
burning of  
controversial  
books to censor  
alternative  
view-points.



LATELY  
WE'RE  
DEALING WITH  
VARIOUS  
ISSUES  
SURROUNDING  
LIBRARIES.

LIKE...  
**BOOK  
BURNING.**







Hundreds of books were secretly destroyed because of an **MBC** raid.

The incident happened at a library in Tokyo a few years ago.

THE TEAM HAS BEEN AROUND SINCE 1987. THE BELIEVE THAT THIS WAS AN OCCURRENCE IN THE HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY.



Apologist officials within the library were accused of letting the **MBC** have their way.



Modern day book burning.

YES.



WHY WOULD YOU WANT MY OPINION...

A personal opinion?

Here's your order.

WELL, I...

?



...REGARDING THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIBRARY'S HISTORY.

I'M CURIOUS ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS...



I'M AFRAID  
THAT YOU'D  
HATE ME.

I DON'T MEAN  
TO PRY IF  
YOU'RE NOT  
COMFORTABLE  
WITH THIS KIND  
OF SUBJECT.

THE  
THING  
IS...  
WELL...



GOD.  
WHAT  
AM I  
SAYING?

LET'S  
EAT.

So honest  
and direct!  
He reminds  
me of  
someone.

EXCUSE  
ME.

Now  
there's a  
surprise.

MISS  
SHIBA-  
ZAKI?

AH  
HA  
HA  
HA



...

THAT DOESN'T  
LOOK LIKE A  
PERFECTLY  
REHEARSED  
SMILE.

EH?



NOTHING.

I'D LIKE  
TO TALK  
WITH YOU  
AGAIN,  
IF THAT'S  
OKAY.



Someone  
like  
Kasahara.

DON'T  
YOU  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
IT.



WHEN  
IT'S  
NOT A  
BOTHER,  
OF  
COURSE.

THERE'S NO ONE  
ELSE I KNOW AT  
THE LIBRARY.  
MAY I PICK YOUR  
BRAIN NOW AND  
THEN?

WHAT?



I'M  
HOME.

WELCOME  
BACK!

GASP!



PRETTY  
WELL,  
I GUESS.

I ACTUALLY  
HAD A  
BETTER TIME  
THAN I'D  
EXPECTED.

OH  
REALLY?

Like  
what he  
said  
when  
we  
parted...

THERE'S  
NO ONE  
ELSE I  
KNOW AT  
THE  
LIBRARY.

One minute  
a simpleton,  
like Kasahara,  
the next keen  
and sharp.

Actually...  
he is.

THEN HE  
MUST BE  
PRETTY  
SMART, HUH?  
THIS GUY  
NAMED  
ASAHA.

He found  
a way in  
between my  
work and  
personal  
life.  
I couldn't  
say no.

well.  
He  
got  
me.

YEAH,  
HE'S SMART,  
THOUGH I  
HATE TO  
ADMIT IT.

Me!

SO,  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
SEE HIM  
AGAIN?

my  
card

IF OUR  
SCHED-  
ULES  
ALLOW,  
YES.

HE'S  
RESEARCHING  
LIBRARIES  
AND IS  
INTERESTED  
IN MY  
OPINIONS.

IF YOU  
DON'T  
WANT  
TO,  
JUST  
SAY SO.

...



GO GET  
HIM,  
SHEN-  
SAKU!

YAY♥



How  
funny.

YOU DON'T  
LOOK ALL  
THAT  
EXCITED,  
GO...

I Know  
it's not  
my  
business.



TOUCHÉ!  
TOUCHÉ!

**Touché!**

For someone  
who's totally  
oblivious to  
all things  
in her own  
life...



I KNOW  
HOW YOU  
HATE TO BE  
THE SOURCE  
OF BAD  
NEWS.



NOT A WORD  
OF WHAT I  
SAID LEAVES  
THIS ROOM,  
OKAY?



WILL YOU  
KEEP THIS  
BETWEEN  
US,  
KASAHARA?



IF THE  
OTHER  
GIRLS  
HEAR ABOUT  
THIS,  
THEY'RE  
GOING TO  
BLOW IT  
OUT OF  
PROPOR-  
TION.



Why am I  
acting this  
way?

I'm tired from  
being the  
bull of  
jokes

Want  
to take  
a bath?



I  
PROMISE.





SHE'S  
JUST A  
PRETTY  
FACE.



HEY, THAT  
UPPER-  
CLASSEMEN  
HAS GOT  
THE HOTTS  
FOR  
SHIBAZAKI.



That's  
him.



IS IT  
TRUE HE  
ASKED  
YOU  
OUT?

WHY  
DON'T  
YOU GO  
OUT WITH  
HIM?

He's a  
nice guy

YOU  
MEAN...

It's not  
like you,  
Asako  
Shibazaki.



THERE GOES  
SHIBAZAKI.

WHY IS  
SHE SO  
ARROGANT?

**SAP**

...THE  
OLDER  
BOY YOU  
HAVE A  
CRUSH  
ON?

WHY WOULD  
I GO OUT WITH  
SOMEONE I  
DON'T EVEN LIKE?  
WHO I DATE IS  
NONE OF YOUR  
BUSINESS.

**S L A P**

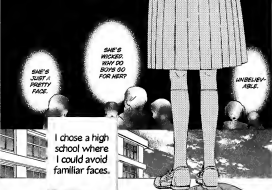
YOU'RE  
HORRIBLE  
...

BECAUSE

BECAUSE  
YOU SAID  
SOMETHING  
THAT BROKE  
MY HEART!

YOU'RE  
SO MEAN,  
SUBARAKA!

YOU  
HIT ME  
FIRST,  
REMEM-  
BER?



I chose a high school where I could avoid familiar faces.



I quickly made my way up to Miss Friendly, everyone's go-to girl.

From day one, I pretended to be kind.

I kept my finger on the pulse of campus.

LET'S HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER!



Winning popularity with sarcasm.

TEENREDDNEE





Manipulate information and people.

Pay attention to details. Weasel your way in.

The key to popularity is to never trust anyone.



My junior high school life sucked. I wouldn't repeat the same mistakes. I now had a network of friends to insulate me from social dangers.

YOU'VE GOT INCREDIBLE PEOPLE SKILLS.

I WISH I WAS LIKE YOU WHAT'S THE KEY?

REALLY?

Every year, I got better at it.

Really?

I don't get on with just anyone.

There is no way.

No way I was going to tell her the truth.

THERE'S NO KEY.



Even you,  
Kasahara.



MORNING,  
HIROSE.



WHISPER

HEY.  
HEY.



GOOD  
MORNING,  
SHIBAZAKI,  
KASAHARA.



CAMP



WHAT?  
HE WON'T  
COME  
EVERY  
DAY.

YOU NEVER  
KNOW.  
HE SEES  
A CHANCE  
AND GOES  
RIGHT FOR  
IT!

OH YEAH

IT'S  
NOT LIKE  
YOU THINK,  
HIROSE.

C'mon,  
don't be  
stupid

I THINK  
YOU TWO  
MAKE A  
CUTE  
COUPLE.



I hope  
Asahina  
shows up  
today.



After Yesterday's  
Lunch

Did  
you  
say  
yet?

He's  
freaked  
out!

Even,  
Sorry!

That  
was  
pretty  
much  
how  
you  
acted  
when  
I  
got  
back.

YES,  
EVERYONE  
WANTED  
A  
PIECE  
OF  
ME.

Was it  
like that  
all day  
yesterday?



UH-  
OH.

COME  
ON,  
HIROSE.



LATER,  
THEN.

WELL,  
JUST THE  
THOUGHT OF  
EVERYONE  
GANGING UP  
ON YOU...!

WHY  
ARE YOUR  
CHEEKS  
SUDDENLY  
HOLLOW?

I PROMISE,  
I WON'T  
BREATHE  
A WORD...

THAT BLANK  
STARE DIDN'T  
FOOL ME.  
HE WAS  
DEFINITELY  
ALL EARS.

HIROSE HAS  
ALWAYS  
BEEN A  
BUSYBODY.

NO  
PROBLEM  
WITH TEAM  
DOJO.

They're  
discreet.

HEY,  
ARE YOU  
OKAY IF  
I TELL  
TEZUKA?

Would you tell  
Instructor  
Dojo that I'm  
a big fan?

Oh,  
by the way...

I'm a  
professor  
for crying

SIP

THAT'S  
THE KIND OF  
THING THAT  
MAKES HIM  
UNCOMFORT-  
ABLE.

YOU  
KNOW  
WHAT?

WHAT WOULD  
YOU DO IF  
I BECAME  
SERIOUS  
ABOUT OUR  
INSTRUCTOR  
DOJO?





...

TH-

Kasa-  
hara.

YOU DON'T  
NEED MY  
PERMISSION.

NONE  
OF MY  
BUSINESS!

ARE  
YOU  
SURE?

THAT'S  
YOUR  
CHOICE  
TO MAKE,  
SHIBA-  
ZAKI.





So why  
did I open up  
like that?

WILL YOU  
KEEP THIS  
BETWEEN  
US,  
KASAHARA?

As  
if...

...I had  
total faith in  
Kasahara,  
letting her  
see me be  
vulnerable.

It's not  
like me  
at all.

You're  
nothing...

...like  
me.

You're so  
honest,  
open...

...and  
lovable.

GARY  
You keep  
doing this  
to me.


WHAT  
IS IT

WHAT  
A FINE  
WAY TO  
START  
THE  
DAY...!

JUST  
PLEASE,  
GIVE IT A  
REST NOW  
AND THEN,  
YOU BLOCK-  
HEAD!

AW  
I'M  
SORRY,  
SIR.

I've  
never  
met  
any-  
one  
like  
you.



After all  
these years,  
I found  
someone  
I actually  
want to  
be friends  
with.



IS IT  
TRUE...?

WEEKLY NE



THAT'S MISS  
ORUKICHI'S  
MAGAZINE!

WEEKLY  
NEW  
WORLD?

WHY...?!

NOT ONLY  
WILL IT  
BE A  
TARGET  
FOR CEN-  
SORSHIP...



UNFORTU-  
NATELY,  
IT IS  
TRUE.

THE  
OFFI-  
CIALS  
JUST  
CALLED.

...BUT IN  
THE MEANTIME  
WE HAVE TO  
DECIDE  
WHETHER  
OR NOT WE  
WILL ALLOW  
OUR PATRONS  
ACCESS  
TO IT.

...WILL  
FEATURE  
AN ARTICLE  
THAT MAY  
VIOLATE  
THE LAW.

THE  
LATEST  
ISSUE  
DUE OUT  
TOMORROW

A well-rehearsed smile is useful!



# CHAPTER 26



A well-rehearsed smile is useful!





It features an article on the teenage serial killer case that rocked the world last year.

The controversy surrounds this issue.

AND THAT'S ONLY THE START OF OUR PROBLEMS.

FIRST, A RAID.

THEY'LL MOST LIKELY AMBUSH WHEN THE BATCH IS DELIVERED TO THE LIBRARY. WE NEED TO TIGHTEN SECURITY.

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?



3.





It is a clear and flagrant violation of the juvenile court privacy laws.



The case's ruling caused a sensation. Many argued that the sentence was too light for someone who committed such atrocities.

It was fading from memory until the *Weekly New World* dropped a bombshell...

They acquired the court deposition in its entirety along with the perpetrator's image and full name.

HOW MUCH OF THE ARTICLE SHOULD WE RELEASE TO OUR PATRONS?

IT'S OUT OF OUR HANDS. WE'LL LEAVE IT TO THE LIBRARIANS.





TELL  
ME...

WHAT  
IS IT YOU'RE  
TRYING TO  
ACCOMPLISH  
BY BREAKING  
THE LAW?



SOMEONE  
WANTED THE  
WORLD TO  
SEE IT...

MUST BE A  
CONCERNED  
PARTY  
UNHAPPY  
WITH THE  
RULING.

THAT  
DEPOSITION  
WAS SENT  
BY AN  
ANONYMOUS  
INSIDER.

...AND  
TO LET US  
DECIDE  
WHETHER  
THAT BOY  
DESERVED  
MORE THAN  
A SLAP ON  
THE WRIST.

The document shed  
light on the gruesome,  
gory details of  
the crimes.



THE  
GENDER  
TRUSTED  
US WITH  
THIS  
MATERIAL.

*I'LL BE  
DAMNED IF  
WE BURY IT  
LIKE A BLINCH  
OF SPINELESS  
APOLOGISTS.*



*...HOW-  
EVER!*

IF IT'S  
NOT IN LINE  
WITH YOUR  
POLICY,  
WASH YOUR  
HANDS OF IT.

WE'RE  
PREPARED  
FOR IT.

FOR SOME,  
IT'S JUST  
SENSATIONALISM  
EXPLOITING  
A TRAGEDY.

BUT...

YOU DIDN'T  
HAVE TO PUT  
EVERYTHING  
OUT THERE  
LIKE THAT.



IT'S  
YOUR  
MAGAZINE.

I'LL  
PROTECT  
IT WITH  
MY LIFE.



THAT  
IS  
OUR  
DUTY!

WE WILL  
DEFEND  
THE  
WEEKLY  
NEW  
WORLD!



I FEEL  
LIKE SHE'S  
BETRAYED  
US.



I know she can  
be a hard-ass,  
but she has faith  
and she's not  
afraid to fight  
for it.

MISS  
ORIKUCHI.

I admired  
that about  
her.



BLOOD-  
HEAD!

BONK





AS A  
JOURNALIST,  
SHE HAS HER  
REASONS.

HER ACTIONS  
ARE IN THE  
BEST INTEREST  
OF THE  
PUBLISHER.

DON'T  
JUDGE HER  
COMMITMENT  
TO HER  
WORK.



OUR  
COMMIT-  
MENT IS...



WE'RE  
NOT  
HEROES.

...TO  
PROTECT  
BOOKS,  
ALL  
BOOKS,  
WITH OUR  
LIVES!

I remember  
his words.  
I had just  
enlisted in  
the Library  
Forces.

MUNCH

MUNCH

No  
organization  
is without  
its faults and  
compromises.

I'M FULL  
JUST  
WATCHING  
YOU

BELLY'S  
FULL.  
ALL  
DONE.

I know  
it in my  
heart.

GOOD  
LUCK.

But  
knowing  
doesn't  
make it  
any  
easier.

OFF  
I GO!

THE  
BATCH IS  
COMING  
TODAY.

3 books







My heart  
desires to  
do the  
right thing.  
Am I just  
being naïve?

DON'T  
LET THEM  
LAY A  
FINGER  
ON IT.

THE  
RAID IS  
COMING.

**SIR!**

**LIBRARY  
TASK  
FORCE!  
GO!**

NO  
BULLETS.  
JUST  
OLD-  
FASHIONED  
HAND-  
TO-  
HAND  
COMBAT.



This volume  
has a chapter  
focusing on our  
lovely Shibasaki!

I love drawing  
eyelashes.  
I had to be  
careful not to  
exaggerate it, though.  
Too many eyelashes  
make one's face  
look weird.  
I ended up erasing  
a lot of them.  
Girls just lighten  
up a whole page,  
don't you think?  
I'm committed to  
making them as  
pretty as I can.  
That's why the  
artwork on the  
cover has them  
surrounded by  
lots of flowers.

I take the  
responsibility  
seriously.  
The problem is...  
I suck at drawing  
flowers...

But that  
didn't stop me!



The  
question  
is...

...still  
open to  
debate.

W.N.W.  
CONFERENCE



That  
means...

He was  
one of the  
best  
people  
I ever  
met.

The  
former  
head  
librarian  
quit.

Toba's  
out of  
the  
picture  
as of  
March  
31st.



General  
Sadahiko  
Eto is the  
new head.

THANKS  
FOR  
COMING,  
EVERY-  
ONE.

SHALL  
WE BEGIN?

This is his  
first crisis  
conference.



FIRST,  
I WOULD LIKE  
TO ASSURE  
YOU ALL THAT  
THIS IS AN  
OPEN FORUM.  
PLEASE SHARE  
YOUR OPINIONS  
FREELY.

REGARDING  
ACCESS TO  
THE LATEST  
ISSUE OF  
WEEKLY  
NEW  
WORLD...

Let's  
see  
what  
you're  
made  
of.



**RUN!**

THEY'RE  
HERE.



**RUN,  
KASAHARA!  
MAKE IT  
TO THE  
BUILDING!**

**ROGER!**

**FUSH!**



**KASA-  
HARA!**





HOW ABOUT WE MAKE A COPY OF THE ARTICLE, REDACT IT NOW, AND THEN REPLACE IT AT A LATER DATE?

AND NO TAPING OVER THE ARTICLE. ANYONE CAN PEEL IT OFF AND READ IT.

I THINK IT'D BE UNWISE TO CUT OR BLACK OUT PAGES.

IT'LL PREVENT US FROM EVENTUALLY RELEASING THE MATERIAL.



Everyone's so focused. Feeling energy in the room is a nice change.

By giving young agents an opportunity to speak, he encourages us to participate.

As opposed to total a meetings



WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON IT?

He hasn't yet voiced his opinion.

He's good...

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HAYANO  
DEPUTY LIBRARIAN

But...



I  
THINK...

...NO ONE HAS  
YET MENTIONED  
THE POSSIBILITY  
OF BANNING  
THIS MONTH'S  
ISSUE.



SOME,  
IF NOT MANY,  
OTHER  
LIBRARIES  
CONDONE  
THIS SORT  
OF BAN.

THE MOST  
IMPORTANT  
THING IS  
KEEPING OUR  
AUTONOMY.



THAT'S  
NOT OUR  
POLICY.

BUT THAT  
WOULD  
DENY  
ACCESS  
TO OTHER  
ARTICLES.



I SEE WHY  
WE ARE  
CRITICIZED  
FOR BEING  
BIASED AND  
ONE-SIDED.

IT IS  
FOOLISH TO  
COMPLETELY  
EXCLUDE  
IT AS AN  
OPTION FOR  
CONSIDER-  
ATION.

No personal  
agenda.  
Neutral  
and fair.

That's how  
Mr. Eto  
operates.

THERE'S  
BEEN TOO  
MUCH  
FOCUS  
ON PRIN-  
CIPLES.

I UNDERSTAND  
THERE ARE  
TWO OPPOSING  
PHILOSOPHICAL  
CAMPS HERE.  
BUT WE'RE ONE  
IN THE SAME  
ORGANIZATION.  
WE FIGHT SIDE  
BY SIDE,  
NOT AGAINST  
EACH OTHER.

I WOULD LIKE  
YOU TO LOOK AT  
THESE ISSUES  
WITH A BROADER  
VISION AND  
BALANCE.

"Balance."

I see.

HELLO.





Always  
the  
straight  
shooter.

HOW  
ABOUT  
LUNCH  
TOMORROW?

I've dined  
with the  
same  
cobbler

Where  
would you  
like to  
go?

Shibasaki is  
too shy to  
let it show,  
but...

...This  
is her  
we're  
talking  
about.

TIME  
TIME



TIME



She  
definitely  
likes  
you.



Hirose!



Um...

Okay...

THE  
PROBLEM  
IS SHE  
CAN'T  
TAKE THE  
INITIATIVE.

YOU  
HAVE TO  
PUSH  
HER.

You're  
the  
man  
here

Oh...

She's waiting for you to take action, you know



TAP

Why?



It's the usual.

I know Hirose's plan.





Why do I  
have to be  
humiliated just  
because your  
heart-throb  
has a crush  
on me?



Oh my god!

MR. ASAHINA  
LIKES YOU  
SHIBAZAKI.

SORRY,  
I COULDN'T  
HELP BUT  
OVER-  
HEAR.



EXCUSE  
ME...?

Hey  
Are you  
two still  
on for lunch  
tomorrow??



Stop.

Come on!  
That's just  
the setup for  
a romantic  
moment!

IT'S NOT WHAT  
YOU THINK.  
I'M JUST  
HELPING WITH  
HIS RESEARCH.

Maybe  
he's going  
to bring  
it to  
another  
level.  
♡

And he  
seems  
so  
sweet!  
♡

I just  
want to  
be left  
alone.

He's a  
handsome  
man!  
What's  
stopping you,  
hmm?

Go  
for it!

WHAT'S  
STOPPING  
ME...?

Don't be  
manipulated.  
Can't you  
see what  
she's trying  
to do here?

First of  
all, you're  
too pretty  
to be  
single.

You've  
done it  
before.

Say  
it.

WHY WOULD  
I GO OUT WITH  
SOMEONE I  
DON'T EVEN  
LIKE?  
WHO I DATE IS  
NONE OF YOUR  
BUSINESS.

She's  
right.  
You need a  
boyfriend.

This is  
irritat-  
ing.

Do  
it.

why  
is  
globe  
soft

—an  
ortho-  
gosth

And go  
back to  
that  
lonely  
place.

B  
A  
N  
G





822 822 822



IT DOESN'T MATTER...

Wait a minute

Kayohara?

**EVEN IF  
HE'S A NICE  
PERSON...  
YOU'RE ONLY  
PUSHING HER  
AWAY FROM  
HIM!**

**STOP IT  
ALREADY!**







IT DOESN'T  
MATTER  
IF HE'S A  
GOOD CATCH!  
IT'S  
SHIBAZAKI'S  
CHOICE TO  
MAKE!

WHAT  
HAPPENED  
TO YOUR  
FACE?

POINT



THIS IS  
ABOUT  
SHIBA-  
ZAKI.

IT IS  
NOW.

MY FACE  
IS NOT  
THE  
ISSUE  
HERE.

Don't  
play  
off  
my  
face  
as  
too  
painful  
to  
look  
at!

RAE

RAE



And  
there  
you  
go.

You've  
done  
it.

BUT THE  
AUTOMATIC  
DOOR  
WASN'T  
FULLY  
OPEN,  
AND

I WAS ABOUT TO ENTER THE BUILDING, CARRYING THE LATEST ISSUE OF WEEKLY NEW PEOPLE...

This is why  
I like you...

...Kasahara.

**YOU RAN  
INTO THE  
POVERTY**

THAT'S  
SO  
ADOTTIC!

This stupidity is legendary.

INSTRUC-  
TOR DOJO  
WENT  
BERSERK.

THEY  
LAUGHED  
AT  
ME.

...IT'S  
NOT  
AS BAD  
AS IT  
LOOKS.

WELL,  
I'M  
GLAD TO  
HEAR...



**YOU  
BLOCK-  
HEAD!**

DAMN  
RIGHT!  
HE STARTED  
YELLING AT  
ME THE  
SECOND HE  
WALKED  
INTO THE  
HOSPITAL.

HE  
DID?

I DID MY JOB.  
I COULD  
USE AN  
ENCOURAGING  
WORD.

That's  
all I ever  
wanted.

RUNNING  
INTO THE  
DOOR?  
THAT'S LAME  
EVEN BY  
SLAPSTICK  
COMEDY  
STANDARDS.

DO YOU  
EVER TIRE  
OF ABUSING  
YOUR  
ALREADY  
DAMAGED  
HEAD?

If only

Damn.



You  
ungrateful  
little  
girl

What a  
handful!

WHAT  
?!

MEN



HE WASN'T  
WORRIED  
ABOUT ME!

*Just another  
excuse to yell  
at me.*

DON'T MAKE  
HIM WORRY.  
HE'LL GO  
BALD  
BECAUSE  
OF YOU.

NOW  
THAT'S WHAT  
I CALL BEING  
UNGRATEFUL.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

I like  
you...

And it looks like  
the abusive  
instructor shares  
my sentiments.

# He's Normally a Smart Guy.



# CHAPTER 27



WOULD  
YOU STOP  
DOING  
THIS?  
ASKING  
ME OUT  
FOR  
LUNCH?



BUT, YEAH.  
I'D HATE TO  
GIVE HER THE  
SATISFACTION  
OF HOOKING  
UP WITH  
YOU.



I HATE  
TO  
BREAK  
IT TO  
YOU.  
BUT...



THE GIRL  
YOU'RE  
INTERESTED  
IN...  
THE SOFT-  
SPOKEN,  
MILD-  
MANNERED  
LIBRARIAN.  
THAT'S  
NOT ME.



NO,  
IT'S  
NOT  
YOU.

YOU THINK  
I'D LET IT  
GO TO MY  
HEAD?

(She  
definitely  
likes  
you)

IS THIS  
ABOUT  
WHAT  
HAPPENED  
YESTER-  
DAY?





WELL, I DON'T  
BLAME YOU.  
A PRETTY GIRL  
SMILES AT YOU  
AND YOU FALL  
FOR HER.  
SIMPLE AS  
THAT.

## CHAPTER 27



**WEEKLY  
NEW  
WORLD IS  
BANNED?!**

**THAT'S THE  
CONCLUSION  
THE MUSASHINO  
LIBRARY  
ARRIVED AT?!**

The news  
came this  
morning.

**BUT...  
WHY?**

**WE'LL COPY THE  
OTHER ARTICLES  
AND PUT THEM  
OUT WITH THE  
NEXT ISSUE.  
THAT'S THE  
BEST WE  
CAN DO.**

**I WOULD LIKE  
YOU TO LOOK  
AT THESE  
ISSUES WITH  
A BROTHERLY  
VISION AND  
TOLERANCE!**

**...STO'S  
OPINION  
CARRIED  
A LOT OF  
WEIGHT.**

**ACCORDING  
TO THE  
LIBRARI-  
ANS...**

**BANNED?  
NOT  
RESTRICTED  
ACCESS?!**



...HE  
DOESN'T  
HAVE THE  
AUTHORITY  
TO SUPPORT  
HIS OPINION.

WHAT  
ABOUT  
THE  
CHIEF  
...?

EVEN IF THE  
CHIEF SPEAKS  
UP AGAINST  
COMMANDER  
INAMINE...

**CHIEF**



I'VE  
HEARD  
HE'S  
REALLY  
GOOD.

IS IT  
POSSIBLE  
THAT BTO  
LED US  
ON?!

# SPURT



WHAT  
WAS  
THAT  
FOR?

NGH.

IMAGINE  
GETTING  
CORNERED  
BY A FACE  
LIKE THAT.  
YOU LOOK  
HILARIOUS.

I was  
trying to  
avert my  
gaze

CAN YOU  
BLAME ME?  
TAKE A  
LOOK IN  
THE  
MIRROR.

WHA-?

# SPURT

SHOULDN'T  
BLAME YOUR  
MOUTH IF  
YOU  
ACT LIKE IT!

100



YOU  
SHOULD BE  
HONORED TO  
BE WOUNDED  
IN THE LINE  
OF DUTY.

6000  
MCMC

**BAM**

## WHAT'S THE COMMO-TION!

**I'M GOING  
TO SUE YOU  
ALL FOR  
ABUSE OF  
AUTHORITY!**

44



WHAT  
THE...

WHAT'S UP  
WITH YOU,  
LOOKING LIKE  
NORAKURO?!  
GET ONE FOR  
THE RIGHT EYE  
TO MATCH!

NO-  
NO-  
NORA-  
KURO  
?!



AH  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
!

For crying  
out loud,  
knock it off!



Norakuro:

A message from  
before the war  
Everyone's familiar  
with it because the  
library has the series

OH, MY.  
LOOKS  
LIKE I'M  
A LITTLE  
LATE FOR  
THE  
PARTY.





KASAHARA'S  
FACE IS  
JUST WHAT  
THIS PLACE  
NEEDED.



I  
KNOW.

I THOUGHT  
YOU'D ALL  
BE HANDING  
YOUR HEADS.  
ESPECIALLY  
CHIEF  
CHENGL.



Sorry  
about that.  
I'll buy you  
loose.

Look  
me in  
the eye  
when  
you  
talk.

SHE HAS A  
TALENT FOR  
TURNING  
COINCIDENCE  
INTO  
LAUGHTER.



HMP?

BY THE  
WAY,  
GHIBAZAKI.  
ABOUT  
THAT  
GUY...









So...

Here  
I go.



THE  
POINT IS,  
MEN WHO  
CAN'T SEE  
BEYOND  
MY  
LOOKS...

...ARE  
NOT  
WELCOME.

THERE  
YOU  
HAVE IT.



**TMP**



I know.



**QW**

I'm  
doing  
this  
because  
I respect  
you.

WAIT A  
MINUTE!



You won't  
see it this  
way now,  
but...

GOOD  
DAY.

TAP



A man so honest  
and open like  
Kasahara...  
He deserves  
to see the  
real me.



THE MOMENT  
YOU OPENED  
YOUR MOUTH,  
I COULD TELL  
YOU ARE  
MERCLESSLY  
SARCASTIC.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT.  
I FIRST  
NOTICED  
YOU  
BECAUSE  
I LIKE THE  
WAY YOU  
LOOK.

BUT.



AND THAT'S THE  
PART OF YOU  
I WANTED TO  
KNOW BETTER!  
THEREFORE...



He's really...

...really...

WOW  
YOU GAVE  
HIM YOUR  
EMAIL  
ADDRESS?



WHAT  
YOU JUST  
SAID...  
THAT'S  
NOT A  
GOOD  
ENOUGH  
REASON!  
  
IF YOU  
WANT TO  
TURN ME  
DOWN,  
FIND  
REAL  
FAULTS  
IN ME!

Wow.



I know  
you hate  
the  
spotlight.

I am!  
I HOPE  
THEY WON'T  
BUG YOU  
ANYMORE.

Nobody  
has to  
know  
about us  
if we  
email each  
other.

Well,  
he had  
a point,  
and...



Tell me what  
made you decide  
to exchange  
email addresses  
with him?

It was  
you,  
Kasahara.



NO, NO, NO.  
NOT MY FACE,  
SHIRAZAKI!

Well,  
you wouldn't  
get it if I told  
you.



## CHAPTER 28

SORRY  
ABOUT THAT.  
I'LL BUY  
YOU LUNCH.

Ten days  
have  
passed  
since the  
Norakuro  
Face  
incident.

The  
bruise  
is  
gone.

I VOTE FOR  
THE FRENCH  
RESTAURANT  
BY THE BUS  
DEPOT.

GOOOOAL!!

5.

We figured  
it out.



#GALLERY









JUST KASA-  
HARA  
AND  
TEZUKA.

DON'T  
PUSH  
IT,  
KOMAKI!

ARE YOU  
TREATING THE  
ENTIRE TEAM,  
BOSS?



SQUAT

YOU  
ARE  
TREATING  
ME AS  
WELL,  
GIRL?

HOW ABOUT  
WE BOTH ORDER  
THE MOST  
EXPENSIVE  
STUFF ON THE  
MENU...?

THERE'S  
NO NEED  
TO BE  
MODEST.

I GOT  
YOU,  
EVIL  
LADY!





GINGA!  
WHAT DID  
I TELL YOU  
ABOUT  
USING  
THAT  
SQUIRT  
GUN?!

I'M SO  
SORRY.  
DID MY  
BROTHER  
BOTHER  
YOU?



OH.



CORPORAL  
KASA-  
HARA!

TAIGA  
?!  
A A A A A

OH, NO.  
DON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
ME.

Ginga Aid



HE  
WANDERS  
OFF THE  
SECOND  
I LOOK  
AWAY.

HE'S A  
BIT OF A  
HANDFUL.

Bop

This  
big  
woman  
is evil,  
Taiga.



SO THIS  
IS YOUR  
LITTLE  
BROTHER,  
HAI?  
Squirt  
mug.

It's an  
old  
mug  
you  
said

How  
long  
time  
he  
said



Taiga Yoshizawa  
He starts high school  
next year



He first appeared  
in Chapters 10-11  
Refer to Volume 3!



My room is so messy. Things go missing all the time..

Right in front of me one minute, gone the next. I call it *Illusion*. While working on this volume, *Illusion* struck and I lost a very important item. It really bummed me out.. Oh, well..

Luckily, there was a substitute.. My fear is that one day I might lose something that is not replaceable.

"SIGH"

When will I learn..?



SEE YOU LATER!

I'M SUPPOSED TO LOOK AFTER HIM WHILE MOM'S SHOPPING.

LET'S GO, TAGSA.

Yeah, yeah.



WASN'T HE CUTER?  
TAGSA'S BABY BROTHER

Ginga  
was it?



BRINGS BACK  
MEMORIES  
OF MY BROTHERS.

WE USED TO RUN AROUND AND CLIMB UP TREES AND PLAY TARZAN.

Big Bro.  
Yep...  
Mama Bro.  
Little Bro.

YOU HAVE THREE BIG BROTHERS, DON'T YOU?





WHEN WE  
FOUGHT,  
WE WENT  
ALL-OUT.

IT WOULD  
QUICKLY GO FROM  
A SQUABBLE TO A  
HAND-TO-HAND  
SCUFFLE TO A  
SERIES OF SUPLEX  
THROWS.

Grown up and  
still wrestling.

Sweet  
memories.



Thanks  
for giving  
me a  
glance  
into your  
troubled  
roots.

Are  
you  
still  
using  
me?

I'm an  
only child  
bonds  
for me,  
though.

YOU HAVE  
A LITTLE  
SISTER,  
INSTRUCTOR  
BOJJO?

WRESTLING  
WASNT MY  
METHOD OF  
RESOLVING  
A FAMILY  
QUARREL.

WAS A  
SUPLEX  
YOUR  
FAVORITE  
MOVE?

ANY  
BROTHERS  
OR  
SISTERS?

HOW  
ABOUT  
YOU,  
TSUKA?



HERE  
WE  
ARE.

I...

ENJOY  
YOUR  
APPE-  
TIZERS.



Ohmigod!  
THIS IS  
AMAZING!

KEEP  
YOUR VOICE  
DOWN.  
YOU'RE  
EMBARRASSING  
US.

I'M SO  
GLAD I  
ORDERED  
THE MOST  
EXPENSIVE  
THING.

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHERE  
TO BEGIN...

Thank  
you,  
sir.









ARE YOU  
HIS BIG  
BROTHER?

YOU SHOULD  
KEEP AN EYE  
ON HIM,  
OKAY?



Taiga paid for it.



HEY!



WELL,  
HE'S  
JUST  
A KID.  
I'LL  
LET IT  
SLIDE.

I'M SO  
SORRY.



Thank  
you,  
sir!

THAT WAS  
MONEY WELL  
SPENT,  
SEEING HOW  
HAPPY IT  
MADE YOU.  
RIGHT,  
DOJO?

...  
Maybe.

HMM?

HOW MANY  
TIMES DO I  
HAVE TO  
APOLOGIZE  
FOR YOU IN  
ONE DAY...?

IF YOU  
KEEP DOING  
THIS TO ME,  
I'LL NEVER  
HANG OUT  
WITH YOU  
AGAIN...

THE  
HELL  
WITH  
YOU!







TAIGA.

ARE  
YOU  
SURE...

...THIS  
IS WHAT  
YOU  
WANT?



I  
HAVEN'T  
SEEN  
HIM...

HMM?  
THAT  
LITTLE  
BOY?



OH...

HE LAID  
OUT EVERY  
BIT OF MONEY  
HE HAD AND  
TOLD ME THAT  
IT WAS FOR  
TAIGA.  
ALL WITH A  
HAPPY LOOK  
ON HIS  
FACE.

BY  
THE  
WAY...

I DON'T  
THINK  
YOUR  
BROTHER  
WANTED  
THE GUN  
FOR  
HIMSELF.



DASH

GO EASY  
ON THAT  
LITTLE  
THING.

HA  
HA



ANY  
LIGHT?

DASH  
...

GINGAI!

NO...

WE  
CHECKED  
THE  
STREET  
THOROUGHLY.



OH MY GOD,  
CORPORAL  
KASAHARA...

I...

**SLAP**

RE-LADY!

**UGH!**

YOU'VE  
GOT THE  
KANTO  
LIBRARY  
FORCE  
TO BACK  
YOU UP!

...when I  
was playing  
with my  
brothers  
in the  
mountains.

**PO-TO**

**GINGA!**

I used  
to  
wander  
off...





That's  
trust.  
That's  
love.

And I  
believe  
that...

Nasty  
tongues,  
quick  
with fists.  
They could  
be mean,  
believe  
me...

But...

When I  
was in a fix,  
they always  
came to my  
rescue.



GINGA!



...made me  
who I am  
today.



CORPORAL  
KASAHARA!  
UP  
THERE...

ON THE  
FOOT-  
BRIDGE!



TAIGA  
....!

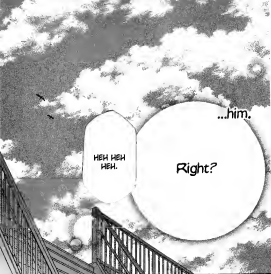






Like...

Sometimes  
you get it  
from your  
brothers...  
Sometimes  
from your  
colleagues.



...him.

HEH HEH  
HEH.

Right?



AND  
YOU  
ARE...

SIR!

I KNEW  
YOU'D  
SAVE ME.

I  
KNEW  
IT.



BUT I  
WAS  
RIGHT.  
I DID  
GOOD.

...BASING  
THAT ON  
WHAT,  
YOU  
RECKLESS  
MORON?!

ADMIT  
IT.

WHY  
THE  
FIST  
??

she  
fell down  
and is  
laughing

She  
fell  
down...

WHISPER



THANKS  
SO MUCH.



THANKS,  
EVL  
LADY.

IS THAT  
THE BEST  
ADVICE  
YOU CAN  
MUSTER?

NEXT TIME  
YOU FIGHT,  
DO IT SOME-  
WHERE LESS  
DANGEROUS,  
OKAY?



DON'T  
YOU  
KNOW  
WHO  
THEY  
ARE?

IDIOT!  
SHE'S  
NOT EVIL.



THEY'RE  
HEROES.

THE  
KANTO  
LIBRARY  
FORCES.





You got  
all of  
them  
right.



Look,  
I solved  
all these  
problems.

Bro.



You're  
smart.  
I'm proud  
of you.

When you  
grow up,  
we'll work  
together and  
fight for  
libraries.

Hikaru.

A black and white manga-style illustration. A man in a dark suit stands in profile, looking out of a large window. Outside, a city skyline is visible under a cloudy sky with birds flying. The man's hands are in his pockets. The scene is split into two panels by a vertical line. In the right panel, a desk with a laptop and a person sitting at it is visible in the background. A large speech bubble is in the upper right, and another is in the lower right. A third speech bubble is in the lower left. A fourth speech bubble is in the lower right, partially overlapping the desk area. A small, stylized signature 'SHIT' is visible in the bottom right corner.

...OUT-  
STANDING.

HE'S  
INDEED MY  
BROTHER.

ENLISTED  
INTO THE  
TASK FORCE  
AT THE TOP  
OF HIS  
CLASS.

A TOP-NOTCH  
SHOOTER IN  
THE FIELD  
AND SELECTED  
AS A SNIPER.  
HAS SHOWN  
EXCELLENT  
DESKWORK  
SKILLS.

THE LIBRARY'S  
NEW STAR,  
RECOGNIZED  
AS SUCH BY  
SUPERIOR  
OFFICERS  
AND NEW  
RECRUITS.



HIKARU.

WHAT WILL  
IT TAKE FOR  
ME TO WIN  
YOU BACK?



## Privileged.



He's just being honest.



**BONUS MANGA**

YEAH.

WE'RE  
NOW DEEP  
ENOUGH  
INTO THE  
WOODS.

IT  
WENT WELL.  
WE'RE IN  
LUCK  
TODAY!

HEY.

THE  
TANK  
IS  
EMPTY!

In the  
middle of  
nowhere.

But there'll  
be a lot of  
people in the  
hotel...  
What if  
someone sees  
us and—

GREAT,  
LET'S SPEND  
THE NIGHT  
HERE.  
I'M HUNGRY  
ANYWAY.

That's  
helping  
us get  
some gas

LOOK!

OH, NO.  
WHAT  
SHOULD  
WE DO?

A HOT  
SPRING?

IDIOT.

HOT  
SPRING  
DOINAKA INN



A hot  
spring?

THIS TIME  
OF YEAR  
IT'S JUST  
GONNA BE  
A BUNCH  
OF OLD  
GEEZERS.

NOTHING  
TO BE  
SCARED  
OF.

YOU'RE  
SO COOL,  
BOSS!





THERE'S A  
HOT SPRING  
IN THE  
NEIGHBOR-  
HOOD?

Hello,  
this is Iku  
Kasahara.



I BOOKED  
A NICE HOTEL  
FOR YOU.  
THANKS FOR  
COMING ALL  
THIS WAY,  
EVERYONE.

The Task Force  
helped move  
books and clean  
up while a few  
librarians  
provided  
referencing  
guidance.



Today  
we're  
visiting a  
library  
outside of  
Tokyo to  
help  
prepare  
for their  
remodel.



OH,  
BOY!

YES,  
THERE IS.  
FURTHER  
UP THE  
MOUNTAIN.  
A VERY  
NICE  
HOT  
SPRING.



It  
looks  
like...



•  
 Tsukasa's big brother appeared for the first time in the first chapter of the volume.

He's going to be quite a busy man in the series. I'm already a fool (laughs)

He's very different from the characters I usually draw for my original stories. It's fun and refreshing and educational. You're a very educational character, big brother!

Drawing his glasses is a lot of work, though. I hate it when they end up crooked...

•  
 •



Today's task comes with a special reward!

**A HOT SPRING!**

**Ohmigod!**



WELCOME, KANTO LIBRARY FORCE.

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.



# Happy ♥

LIVING THE  
GOOD LIFE  
FOR THE  
FIRST TIME,  
EH?

LET'S  
CHECK  
OUT THE  
HOT  
SPRING.

(Great was  
great!)

Great  
view!

Excel-  
lent  
dinner!

Each room comes to find  
the perfectly made food.

Top-  
notch  
service!

All kinds  
of stuff

Well,  
THE OWNER  
OF THIS INN  
IS FRIENDS  
WITH THE  
HEAD  
LIBRARIAN.

I UNDER-  
STAND THEY  
GAVE US A  
GOOD  
DISCOUNT.

How  
up-

ISN'T  
THIS A  
BIT TOO  
GOOD?

BUT...

Were there other  
female librarians?

Waste-aged men,  
you. It's more fun  
to be with you guys.





...EVERY  
ONCE IN A  
WHILE?

THIS  
MONTH'S  
BEEN  
CRAZY...  
WHY NOT  
UNWIND A  
BIT...

IN THE  
SLOW  
SEASON,  
IT'S NOT  
SUCH A  
BAD THING  
FOR THE  
INN.

We have  
footage  
of the  
robbers.



YEAH.

THE TWO BANK  
ROBBERS MADE  
OFF WITH 20  
MILLION YEN.  
THEY ARE STILL  
ON THE LOOSE.

THE POLICE  
ARE TRYING  
TO TRACK  
DOWN THE  
SUSPECTS.



YES,  
IT  
SURE  
DOES.

Yes,  
sic  
It feels  
surreal.

On  
Instruction  
Kamachi

ARE YOU  
STILL IN  
THERE?







TODAY'S OUR  
LUCKY DAY.  
WE'LL BE FINE  
AS LONG AS  
WE KEEP A  
LOW PROFILE.

DON'T BE  
SCARED,  
MASARU!

THERE  
ARE  
YOUNG  
PEOPLE  
HERE.

Did  
you see  
their  
shot?



IF YOU  
SEE A  
PRETTY  
GIRL,  
IGNORE  
HER AND  
LAY LOW.



DON'T...

An  
excep-  
tion to  
the rule!



DON'T  
GET  
INVOLVED  
...!

Oh,  
dear!

All  
freshened  
up and  
in a  
yukata...!

WHERE'S  
THE TABLE?

Hey

YOU  
WANTED  
TO PLAY  
PING-PONG,  
RIGHT?

OH.

OVER  
HERE.





SO MUCH  
PASSION  
AND  
ENERGY...

This is  
fun!

**YAAAAHH!**

It's  
like...

...LIKE TWO  
EXCITABLE  
HIGH  
SCHOOL  
BOYS.

I  
know!

...a night  
on a  
school  
trip.



This is the  
last one

Thanks so  
much for reading  
this for

I had a lot of fun  
working on the  
volume

The more I draw,  
the more I feel  
attached to these  
characters.  
(a~n't it great?)

Thank you for your  
continued support  
of the series.

Bye-bye!  
Please read the  
Special Thanks  
at the end of  
the book.

Kiloe Hara

9.2.03







Five minutes





YOU'RE  
GOING  
TO  
PAY.

I'M JUST  
TOO  
STRONG.

IT'S  
NOT YOU,  
KASAHARA.

10 GAMES  
TOTAL DEFEAT  
GAMING BATH

**DAMN  
YOU.**



Hold  
on.

HMM...  
OF  
COURSE.

WHOA!  
YOU COULD  
SEE ALL THAT  
DURING THE  
GAME...?

SHIRAZAKI  
INVITED  
THEM TO  
JOIN US.

YEAH,  
I SAW  
THEM IN  
THE BATH.  
THEY'RE  
ALSO  
GUESTS.

EH?

SOME  
NEW  
FACES.

WE WORKED UP  
QUITE A SWEAT.  
WE'LL TAKE  
ANOTHER DIP IN  
THE HOT SPRING  
AND CALL IT A  
NIGHT!

THANKS  
FOR THE  
GOOD  
TIME,  
GUYS!

Shiba-  
zaki  
invited  
them  
along?

That's...

I'LL BE  
IN THE  
SOUVENIR  
SHOP.

HMM...  
ANOTHER  
BATH  
SOUNDS  
GOOD.

Shirayuki

PLIK

Boast!

Look,  
Shibazaki...  
My lucky day  
has ended in  
disaster.

HANG ON  
BOSS.

DRAG  
DRAG

OH!

...

...hard to  
believe.



**BANK  
ROBBERS?**

*Opa!*  
I LEFT THE  
KEY ON THE  
PING-PONG  
TABLE.

**WHAT?  
WHAT'S  
YOUR  
PROBLEM,  
DUMMY!**

**GO  
GET  
IT!**



YEP.

OH.  
GOT A  
TEXT.

TEZUKA  
EXPLAINED IT  
TO THE OWNER  
AND HE'S  
CHECKING  
THEIR ROOM  
AS WE  
SPEAK.

*Caught on Camera*



It's too  
blurry  
to tell!

A STRONG  
RESEM-  
BLANCE  
TO THE  
ROBBERS  
CAUGHT ON  
CAMERA.

THE  
MOMENT  
I LAID MY  
EYES ON  
THEM...



BEEP

I WAS  
RIGHT!



WASP!

GUILTY  
AS...

MASABU





THEY'RE  
VERY POPULAR  
WITH YOUNG  
WOMEN.

IT'S  
HANDMADE.

THAT'S  
RIGHT.  
CUTE,  
HUM?

ARE  
THESE  
ALL  
MADE OF  
GLASS?

I'LL  
TAKE  
ONE...

SHATTER

BUMP



INFORMATION  
DOJO IS  
IN THE  
DATA.

TEXTS SENT  
TO ALL  
THREE...

TWO  
AGAINST ONE.  
KASHIURA  
NEEDS  
BACKUP.

...

UHH.  
BOSS TOLD  
ME TO RUN,  
BUT...

I CAN'T  
LET IT  
PASS!

YOU  
WICKED  
TEMPTRESS  
WITH A FACE  
LIKE AN  
ANGEL...

...YOU  
STEPPED ON  
HIS HEART  
AND BROKE  
IT!







**KRAK KRAK**

**HA HA!  
COME IN  
IF YOU  
DARE!**

**A MEN'S  
ONLY  
HOT  
SPRING!**

**HOOO!**



**SIR,  
THEY'RE  
THE BANK  
ROBBERS!  
CATCH  
THEM!**

**SIR,  
THEY'RE  
THE BANK  
ROBBERS!**



AWESOME!



YOU  
HAVE AN  
EXCELLENT  
BODY,  
SIR.

BLOCK-  
HEAD!

Get  
off.

BONG



...



OH...

SPIN SPIN

H...



So...

BLUP

Today was  
not my lucky  
day.







I CURSE EVERY WOMAN IN JAPAN.

LET ME HAVE A LITTLE CHAT WITH THEM.

YES, SIR.

YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR THIS!

APPAR-  
ENTLY WITH NO PENANCE.

On guard until police arrive.

YES, SIR.

ARE THE ROGERS IN THERE?

After a bit of excitement, our night at the hot spring comes to an end.



I DREAM IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!

I WAS STUPID...!  
I REPENT!  
I REPENT!

WE'LL BE MODEL PRISONERS and

I'M SO SORRY.

I'M SORRY...!



Never tick him off...

It ended with a scary "bang."

FIN

BONUS MANGA / THE END

Hot  
spring...

Kaushard  
is around  
somewhere

TK  
TK

## EXTRA BONUS MANGA 1

What's Mobara doing, you ask?





## EXTRA BONUS MANGA 2



EXTRA BONUS  
MANGA 3



GOOD JOB,  
KASAHARA.  
THERE'S  
NO NEED  
TO APOLOGIZE.  
GO TO BED.  
DISMISSED!

SORRY  
ABOUT  
THAT.



Nothing  
seems  
to faze  
him.

YOU REALLY  
DO HAVE AN  
EXCELLENT  
BODY,  
GIRL!

Horseman



Here I am in  
my yukata,  
all excited and  
worked up  
over what just  
happened.

Instructor  
Dojo is  
calm and  
in control.



**WHAT  
...?!**

**WHAT  
ARE  
YOU  
...!**

**YELLING  
STUFF  
LIKE  
THAT...!**

What's  
this?

SIR...  
DID YOU  
JUST  
BLUSH?

NO,  
I  
DID  
NOT!

KIDS...

WHAT'S  
THAT  
ABOUT?

Shut up,  
you drama-  
fan nerd!

The  
blushed  
thruery!

**THE-END**

# Special Thanks!!

Ma Arikawa  
Ma Arikawa's editor (AsCEL Media)

★

Mamada, Murakami,  
AsPL, Aschira

★

My family

★

My editor

★

Everyone who makes this series possible

★★

Thank you for supporting me!



While I was  
working on  
this volume,  
my sister  
had her  
third  
daughter!

I was so  
excited I  
made a  
declara-  
tion as  
if I was a  
famous  
painter

Okay,  
I'm going  
to draw  
all three!

The first  
and second  
ones are  
fond of me,  
so the third  
one will like  
me too!

Ooh!



SCREE  
SCREE  
SCREE

Mami's notebook

Not a hint  
of likeness  
there.

It's as  
though it's  
creaky

They're  
more  
adorable



Drawing  
portraits...  
Don't do  
it unless  
you're a  
real pro.

My sister, a mother of three,  
was happy with it

Hope to see  
you in the  
next volume

Kiara Tami

3200





## End notes

### *Page 10, panel 2: Valentine's Day*

In Japan Valentine's Day is an opportunity for women to show their romantic interests by giving chocolate to the guys they're interested in.

### *Page 13, panel 5: Ashoo*

In Japan it's thought that people sneeze when someone's talking about them behind their backs.

### *Page 14, panel 1: Courtesy Chocolate*

In Japanese, *gan-choco*. Some women also give their colleagues chocolates on Valentine's Day, and it's considered a (nonromantic) seasonal gift.

### *Page 112, panel 2: Norakuro*

Norakuro, a black and white soldier-dog, is the main character of the manga of the same name.

### *Page 128, panel 1: Suplex*

Suplex is a kind of offensive move used in professional wrestling: the wrestler picks up the opponent and then uses his or her own body weight to drive them back down onto the mat.



Kijiro Yano won the 42nd Lala Manga Grand Prix Fresh Debut award for her manga *Billi Bocchan no Yozuru* (Little Billy's Depression). Her latest series is *Toshokan Sensei Love@War* (Library Wars: Love @ War), which runs in Lala magazine in Japan and is published in English by VIZ Media.

Hiro Arikawa won the 10th Dengeki Novel Prize for her work *Shio no Machi: Wish on My Precious* in 2003 and debuted with the same novel in 2004. Of her many works, Arikawa is best known for the *Library Wars* series and her *Jishui Sanbutsu* trilogy, which consists of *Sora no Naka* (In the Sky), *Itaru no Soko* (The Bottom of the Sea) and *Shio no Machi* (City of Salt).



# library wars

Volume 8  
Shojo Best Edition

Story & Art by **Kiino Yuni**  
Original Concept by **Hiro Aikawa**

ENGLISH TRANSLATION Kenzie Morabe  
ADAPTATION & LETTERING Scott McCray  
DESIGN Amy Martin  
EDITOR Megan Bailey

Toshiko Suenou **LOVERMARE** by Kiino Yuni and Hiro Aikawa  
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and contains material for ages 15 and up. The volume  
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# Library Wars

Love & War



In the near future, the federal government creates a committee to rid society of books it deems unsuitable. The libraries vow to protect their collections and, with the help of local governments, form a military group to defend themselves—the Library Forces!

It's Valentine's Day, and Iku's hopes are dashed when Dojo, the guy she's been crushing on—and who's her Library Force superior!—receives an elegant box of chocolates from another woman. Romantic intrigue strikes the whole team as Shihazaki meets a would-be suitor and confides in Iku about her tortured love life. And it seems that Hikaru is being followed by someone from his past...

Shojo  
Beat

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This book reads  
from right to left.



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